

**GROWTH DIFFERENTIATION FACTOR-8 NUCLEIC ACID
AND POLYPEPTIDE FROM AQUATIC SPECIES,
AND TRANSGENIC AQUATIC SPECIES**

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ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A transgenic non-human aquatic organisms, such as piscine, crustacean, mollusks, and the like, having a transgene which results in disrupting the production of and/or activity of growth differentiation factor-8 (GDF-8) chromosomally
10 integrated into the germ cells of the aquatic organism is disclosed. Also disclosed are methods for making such organisms and nucleic acid sequences encoding GDF-8 polypeptides from such aquatic organisms.

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